

6th inst, 3 July, 1872

My dear Sir

I received more than a month ago  
a letter which deserved a speedier reply, but  
which indicated so much character & relation  
to things above time, that I will confide  
that my tardy response will find you in  
the same mind. Your account of your  
early thoughts & your patient waiting for  
the second appearance and your willingness  
to obey the great Leader, greatly interested  
me. What is all this but the one fact,  
the one only good news, matter of congratulation  
mutually between all rational agents throughout  
the Universe. We have found at last  
that there is something, & instantly all that  
we called Heaven & Earth have become  
a pale appearance: Then they glow  
again new created by it. And this  
fact in its first self discovery advises us  
how little, how old how good, how unimportant  
it is, how long it can wait for us; after  
our departures & returns, our right swif

our helps & mishaps we shall still find  
it there innocently past, - after them  
all & spending them all, yes, summing up  
them all. Indeed that life of which  
I speak is so near, that all speech con-  
cerning it is remote impertinent & off-  
reprob'd. Let us only shake hands in  
its spirit, as men do at some great  
or religious event, without words.  
The one prayer it seems to me which  
man should make is for perseverance.  
Almost every man is at some moment  
visited by the truth, yet we are all quickly  
formal or frivolous. And the best  
foundation of skepticism is, I think,  
the helplessness and inadequateness of  
the so-called good. Nobdy has ever yet  
demonstrated to the senses and the soul  
the problem of the good life; we have  
seen attempts at prayers without practice  
and at practice without progress  
but the best examples which I know  
have had something to thank the devil  
for, have owed to a vicious society.

important assistance which in all honesty  
we ought to form to owe to any but virtue  
& the virtuous. So that I count these to  
be low flying dark ages of the soul  
only redeemed by the unceasing af-  
firmation at the bottom of the  
~~text~~<sup>like the nightingale's song for all</sup> -  
night - that the powers of the soul  
are commensurate with its needs,  
an experience to the contrary not-  
withstanding.

It will give me much  
satisfaction to receive <sup>to</sup>  
news from you what is  
most important to you in your  
advancing to Perinage. I doubt not, it  
shall be all fair & noble, and with  
whatever vapors overclouded for a  
time concerns in all time of a serene  
heaven in which it is contained. - A new  
Bible is just issued which I conceive may  
interest you. I will see that it is sent <sup>to</sup> you  
to the care of the bookseller in Baltimore who  
receives the Trials, if such there be, otherwise

by mail. No bill will be sent you, and you  
can pay for it at any future time this year or  
another, that suits your convenience, to E.P. Peabody  
Boston. It should go free to you, if the Journal were yet  
rich enough even to pay its publisher.

Your friend & servant,

R.Waldo Emerson.

Charge no 29

Rev. Solomon Cumes.

Baltimore

Recd

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